

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q73847

Kenji SHIMIZU, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/541,905

Group Art Unit: 2627

Confirmation No.: 6243

Examiner: to be assigned

Filed: July 12, 2005

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM, METHOD OF MANUFACTURING
THEREFOR, AND MAGNETIC READ/WRITE APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/541,905

Attorney Docket No. Q73847

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application (Office Action for corresponding Chinese Patent Application No. 200480002118.2 dated November 10, 2006) citing such documents, together with an English-language version of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

Two of the references cited in the enclosed Office Action (JP-A-2002-334424 and U.S. 6,277,484) were cited in previous Information Disclosure Statements and, therefore, they are not listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A&B (modified) form and copies are not being submitted herewith. The enclosed Office Action with its English-language version constitute a further concise statement of relevance with respect to those references.

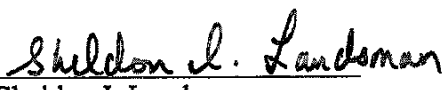
The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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23373
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Date: March 9, 2007

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	10/541,905
				Confirmation Number	6243
				Filing Date	July 12, 2005
				First Named Inventor	Kenji SHIMIZU
				Art Unit	2627
				Examiner Name	To be assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q73847

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 2002/0122959	A1	09/05/2002	Matsunuma et al.
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.